

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02
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R 261135Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7837
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC
CINCEUR

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 6174

CINCPAC, PACOM AND EUCOM FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PK, UR
SUBJ: PAKISTAN DELEGATION TO USSR

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 5631 (B) ISLAMABAD 6097 (C) ISLAMABAD 6066
(D) ISLAMABAD 4348

1. DURING HIS TELEVISION ADDRESS TO THE NATION JUNE 25, GENERAL
ZIA CONFIRMED SPECULATION THAT A PAKISTANI DELEGATION WILL BE
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VISITING THE USSR NEXT MONTH. RUMORS OF A VISIT HAD BEEN
CIRCULATING AROUND ISLAMABAD FOR SOME TIME.

2. THE HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY MR. GHULAM
ISHAQ, SECRETARY-GENERAL-IN-CHIEF. TALKS WILL CENTER ON
INCREASING ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN ISLAMABAD AND
MOSCOW. THE USSR HAS ASSISTED SEVERAL DEVELOPMENT

PROJECTS IN PAKISTAN, INCLUDING A STEEL MILL NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN KARACHI.

3. COMMENT: THE VISIT TO MOSCOW HAS OBVIOUS POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE AT THIS TIME, REGARDLESS OF THE SPECIFICS OF THE DISCUSSIONS. ONE OF THE ALTERNATIVE POLICY COURSES WHICH THE PAKISTANIS HAVE HINTED AT, IN THE ABSENCE OF GREATER WESTERN SUPPORT TO MEET THEIR POST-AFGHAN COUP ANXIETIES, IS A POLICY OF ACCOMMODATION TO THE SOVIET UNION -- TO REDUCE THEIR OWN VULNERABILITY AND, HOPEFULLY, TO ENCOURAGE MOSCOW TO EXERCISE A RESTRAINING HAND IN KABUL (REF A). GHULAM ISHAQ'S VISIT COULD BE THE STAGE-SETTER FOR THE GOP'S EXPLORATION OF JUST WHAT MIGHT BE THE DIMENSIONS AND BENEFITS OF AN EXERCISE OF ITS SO-CALLED SOVIET OPTION.

HUMMEL

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